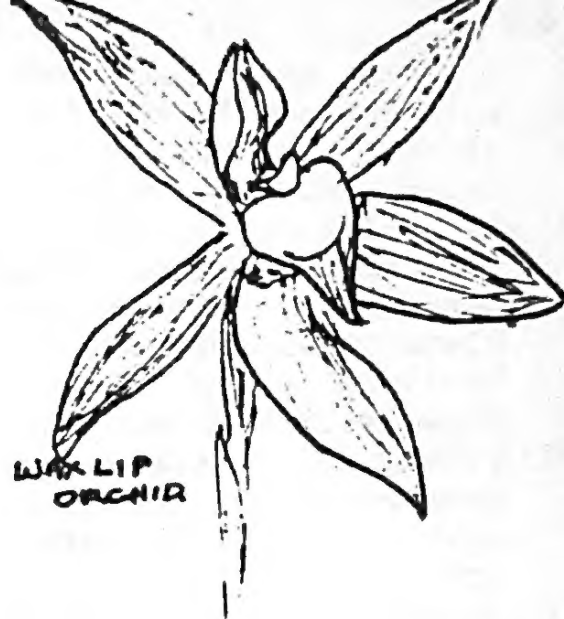


CASTLEMAINE NATURALIST

OCTOBER 1988

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THE RIVALS

We are quite used to the attacks of our resident male Blue Wren on our kitchen window each year. He reappears in mid-winter in his drab winter coat, and soon changes over a period of two or three weeks to his gorgeous courting clothes. Between the two he looks decidedly odd and piebald. He also visits a mirror in an old hall stand on the verandah. He might come several times a day and rarely stays for more than a minute or two, sometimes being joined by a jenny or a young male. We enjoy the close views of the little birds, although they are startled by us moving about inside.

One day last week we came home from our daily walk and found two new birds at the window. They are Striated Thornbills, and attacked their reflected selves with a will. The failure of their rivals to give up and go away seemed to infuriate them, and they even flew at the glass with a thump. That must have rattled their little brains, because they didn't repeat the exercise very often!



A wattle tree has grown toward the window, and its slender branches touch the glass. This gives the thornbills plenty of opportunity to berate their reflections, hanging upside down by one slender leg to strike at the glass with the other. They flit from branch to branch, twittering angrily and pecking the glass. They also flutter up and down the glass, pecking as they go. I don't suppose that the results will be marvellous, but I decided the opportunity was too good to miss, and fetched the camera.

It was not so simple as I expected, as they wouldn't sit still for very long! A little while later the wren appeared along with the thornbills, so I snapped him too.

I thought my close approach with the camera would frighten the little birds away, but they took no notice of me at all. They were too busy defending their territory against the phantoms in the glass.



2
They were back early the following morning, and when I tried putting my hand directly on the glass, right in front of one of the birds, it carried on pecking and cursing regardless. Later I put up my hand outside, and almost touched a bird before it noticed me and flew away. My elder son actually touched one of them, so absorbed are they. Fortunately for them the window is 1.6m or so above the ground, and the wattle is too slender to support a cat.

When the birds arrive at first light, they attack with fresh vigour, and spend most of their time at the window. As the day wears on, they spend more time away feeding, although they come back at intervals. When the sky is overcast and dull, the reflection is less, and they seem to be looking for their rivals, and not convinced that they have really gone (at last!).

I hope that all this activity means that they plan to settle in our garden for the breeding season, although how they will find time and energy to build a nest and raise a family along with their shadow boxing, I don't quite know! I tried to lower the blind so they wouldn't be able to see themselves, but it is stuck, and I can't reach the works to unstick it. Meanwhile we have a little free entertainment, and the pleasure of bird-watching up really close.

Sue Kennedy, Noyston.

MELVILLE CAVES CAMPOUT

There were eleven of us, including seven teenagers and children, who camped out at Melville Caves (Mt Kooyoora State Park), while ~~two~~ others joined us for the Tuesday. The weather was almost perfect, with only one very cold early morning, but a campfire breakfast made even that bearable!

We were able to add several plants, including four orchids, to the Kooyoora plant list, which is in the process of compilation. We were able also to confirm some local birdwatchers' sighting of a powerful owl. We didn't see the owl, but found the remains of a partly eaten brushtail possum and the very large regurgitated pellets.

The ranger, John Kneebone, joined us for a while on Wednesday morning and showed us photoes of an unidentified orchid in the Kingower cemetery, which is on the edge of the park, and a nice big fat specimen of a female mouse spider, which was laborously constructing a cap for a hole out of the sand in the vial and her own web.

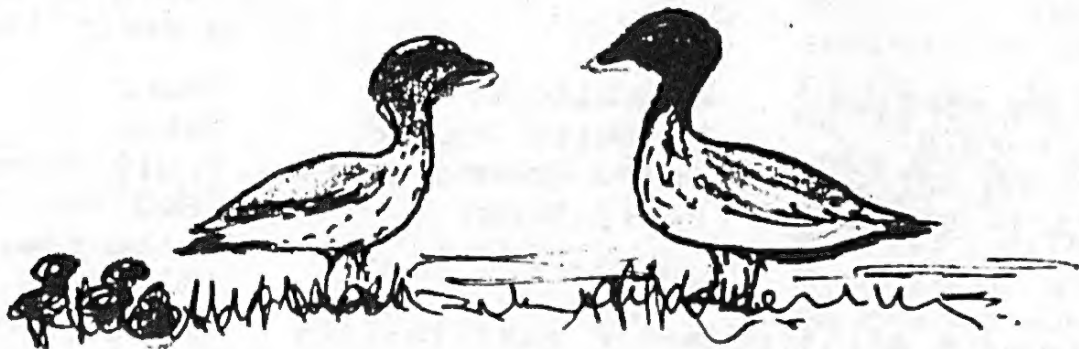
He also told us of, and showed us photoes of, a very interesting area behind Mt Kooyoora itself. There's a week or more of exploration in the park, and I still haven't seen the orchid terraces!

Rita Mills

There must be something in the air at Guildford that intensifies the nurturing instinct - it hasn't only affected me.....

On the morning of September 10 I was brought three tiny wild ducklings which had been found wandering in a paddock near the Loddon River by local fishermen. My guess was that they were Wood Duck or Black Duck babies, but none of the books provided any information which would exactly identify them. Hugh made a wire pen on our front lawn, and when they were not trying to escape by climbing the 3' wire (two succeeded on one occasion) they must have managed to get enough of the food I provided to remain very bright and chirpy.

Thursday night was spent inside on a hot water bottle, and next day they were in their pen again, but so obviously frustrated by their confinement that at about 4 pm I decided to let them out for a walk. I watched them work their way down towards our little dam, cheeping all the way - then from beyond the opposite bank flew one of the pair of adult Wood Duck (Maned Geese) which spend quite a lot of time around here. She landed on the water and swam towards the babies. The next bit of action was hidden by long grass on the lip of the dam, but soon all four were headed back across the water to the adult male waiting on the bank. They all paddled around the edge for a while, thoroughly investigating each other, then the adults headed off up the bank. The little ones set up such a panic of cheeping that the adults turned and came back. They headed off towards a low thick bush where they spent some time - mother and babies hidden, father on guard.



Eventually the female emerged and there was what I am sure was a family conference. They stood a small way apart, eyeball to eyeball, and there was some nodding and waving of heads. I'm sure the conversation was some variation of this

She Poor little darlings - they've no one to look after them.

He But they are not ours!

She We can't just leave them here.

He You know they are a lot of work.

She Please.....?

He Oh, alright.

She Thankyou, dear.

(Hugh's comment - Female wins the argument again!!!)

The family group then disappeared over the bank of the dam and we saw or heard no more of them that night. I kept listening for the cheeping that would mean they had been deserted, but all was still.

Next morning all five were on the dam. Later they headed into the next-door paddock - maybe heading for the larger, more isolated, dam.

I hope we see them again to find out what happens. I'd love to know if the babies are Wood Duck. Anyway, you can be sure I will be keeping a sharp lookout for them in the future.

Beri Perry.

EDIBLE PLANTS FOUND IN THE BENDIGO AREA

From "Plant Utilization by Victorian Aborigines", unpublished MSc Prelim. Thesis, by Alison Oates, Latrobe University, 1977.

With thanks to John and Caroline Lindner, Bendigo FNC.

Botanical Name	Common Name	Part Eaten
Acacia oswaldii	Umbrella Acacia	Seeds eaten raw
A. pycnantha	Golden Wattle	Gum was soaked in water with a sugar substance added to produce a sweet liquid.
Acianthus exertus	Mosquito Orchid	Tuber
A. reniformis	Mosquito Orchid	Tuber
Acrotriche serrulata	Green Ground-berry	Fruit eaten raw
Aguillaria dioica	Early Nancy	"Swollen roots" eaten raw, or possibly roasted.
Arthroposium milliflorum	Pale Vanilla-lily	"roots", eaten raw or possibly roasted.
Astroloma conostephoides	Flame Heath	Fruit eaten raw.
A. humifusum	Cranberry Heath	Fruit eaten raw.
A. pinifolium	Pine Heath	Fruit eaten raw.
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia	Flowers eaten raw.
Billardiera cymosa	Sweet Apple-berry	Flowers eaten raw.
Boerhavia diffusa	Tah-vine	Fleshy tap-root eaten after baking.
Brachyloma ciliatum	Fringed Heath	Fruit eaten raw.
Bulbine bulbosa	Bulbine Lily	Bulb.
Burchardia umbellata	Milkmaids	Roots
Caesia vittata	Blue Grass-lily	Tuberous roots.
Caledonia spp.		
C. patersonii	Common Spider orchid	Tuber.
Calendrinia spp.	Purslane	Eaten as "greens"

Cardamine spp.	Bitter-cresses	Leaves eaten raw.
Casuarina stricta	Drooping She-oak	In cases of severe thirst the shoots were chewed, resulting in a flow of saliva in the mouth from the acid content.
Clematis spp.	Clematis	Fibrous roots dug up in Winter, cooked in baskets and kneaded on a small sheet of bark into dough.
Convolvulus erubescens	Pink Bindweed	Root cooked and formed one of the principal vegetable foods during Winter.
Cyperus spp	Sedges	Seeds mixed with grains and ground into flour.
Dichopogon strictus	Chocolate Lily	Roots eaten raw or possibly roasted.
Diurus pedunculata	Golden Moths	Tuber eaten raw or cooked.
Elocharis sphacelata	Tall Spike-rush	Tuber eaten raw or roasted.
Enchylaena tomentosa	Barrier Salt-bush	Fruit eaten raw.
Eucalyptus camaldulenses	River Red Gum	Seeds eaten.
E. largiflorens	Black Box	Fruiting branches were pulled down and left in the sun for a day to induce the capsules to open. The small seeds were brushed into water and soaked for a couple of hours with several changes of water to remove unpleasant flavours. After drying the seed was ground on a grinding stone and eaten raw.
E. polybractea	Blue Mallee	Roots cut into lengths and drained or sucked into skin water-bags.
E. viridis	Green Mallee	D.O.
Exocarpus cupressiformis	Cherry Ballart	When the fruits are red they are sweet and palatable.
E. strictus	Pale-fruit Ballart	Fruit eaten raw.
Geranium potentilloides	Crane's-bill	Swollen taproot roasted.

<i>G. solanderi</i>	Austral Crane's-bill	D.o.
<i>Glossodia major</i>	Wax-lip Orchid	Tuber eaten raw or possibly roasted.
<i>Glyceria australis</i>	Australian Sweet-grass	Seeds eaten in Summer; possibly ground into flour.
<i>Glycine tabacina</i>	Variable Glycine	Taproot eaten.
<i>Hypoxis glabella</i>	Yellow Star	Rhizome eaten raw.
<i>H. hygrometrica</i>	Golden Weather-glass	Rhizome eaten raw.
<i>Juncus spp</i>		Seeds mixed with grains.
<i>Lavatera plebeia</i>	Austral Holyhock	Roots eaten.
<i>Lepidium fasciculatum</i>	Bundled Pepper-cress	Eaten as "greens"
<i>Leptomeria aphylla</i>	Leafless Currant Bush	Fruit eaten raw.
<i>Leucopogon spp</i>	Beard Heaths	Fruit eaten raw.
<i>Linum marginale</i>	Native Flax	Mucilaginous seeds eaten.
<i>Lomandra spp.</i>		Flowers eaten.
<i>Marilea drummondii</i>	Nardoo	Spores rich in starch.
<i>Microseris scapigera</i>	Yam Daisy	Root eaten raw or roasted.
<i>Microtis spp.</i>	Onion Orchids	Tubers eaten.
<i>Montia perfoliata</i>	Miner's Lettuce	Eaten as greens.
<i>Muehlenbeckia cunnighamii</i>	Tangled Lignum	Seeds ground into flour.
<i>Myoporum platcarpum</i>	Sugarwood	Exudation of manna from the leaves is eaten raw.
<i>Nymphoides crenata</i>	Wavy Marshwort	Tubers eaten.
<i>Panicum spp.</i>	Panic grasses	Seeds eaten
<i>Persoonia rigida</i>	Hairy Geebung	Fruits eaten.
<i>Phragmites communis</i>	Common Reed	Rhizome dried and ground into flour.
<i>Pittosporum phillyreoides</i>	Weeping P	Seeds pounded into flour. Gum exuded and used as a food source.
<i>Podelepis jaceoides</i>	Showy Podelepis	Thickened root roasted.
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Common Purslane	Eaten as greens.
<i>Prasophyllum spp.</i>	Midge Orchids	Tuber eaten
<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral Bracken	Rhizome beaten into paste with a stone and then roasted in hot ashes.
<i>Pterostylus spp.</i>	Greenhood orchids	Tubers eaten.
<i>Rhagodia spp.</i>	Saltbushes	Fruits eaten raw.
<i>Salsola kali</i>	Prickly Saltwort	Fruits eaten raw.
<i>Santalum acuminatum</i>	Sweet Quandong	Fruit eaten raw.
<i>Scirpus spp.</i>	Club-rushes	Rhizomes probably baked; rich in starch.

Sotaria glauca	Pale Pigeon-grass	Grain ground into flour.
Solanum aviculare	Kangaroo Apple	Fruit eaten raw or baked.
S. esuriale	Quena	Fruit eaten raw.
S. simile	Oondoroo	Fruit eaten rw.
Thelymitra spp.	Sun-orchids	Tuber eaten.
Thysanotis patersonii	Twining Fringe-lily	Swollen roots eaten raw.
Triglochin procera	Water-ribbons	Some of the roots become swollen to form elliptical tubers, and these are baked and eaten.
wahlenbergia spp.	Bluebells	Flowers eaten.
Xanthorrhoea spp.	Grass Trees	Flowering spike eaten; also steeped in water to produce a sweet beverage; also young shoots eaten raw or roasted.

NAME CHANGES FOR LOCAL PLANTS

This article gives name changes of some of the local plants. Unfortunately, some of the plants have swapped names, to produce a very confusing situation indeed.

The Lance Water-fern, from McKay reservoir, is now *Blechnum chambersii*.

Most of the Club-rushes are now in the genus *Isolepis*. However, the River Club-rush is *Schoenoplectus validus*, and the Bog Club-rush is now *Bulboschoenus medianus*.

The Common Duckweed is now *Lemna disperma*.

The Mosquito Orchid, quite common at the base of rock outcrops, is now *Cyrtostylis reniformis*. The Veined Spider-orchid also gets a name change, to *Caladenia reticulata*. The Scented Sun-orchid, the showy blue sun-orchid that is very common in our bushland, reverts to *Thelymitra nuda*.

Two of the most beautiful of our grasses also get new names. The Red-anther Wallaby Grass is no longer a Wallaby Grass, but is *Chionochloa pallida*. And the Kangaroo Grass is now *Themeda triandra*. Most of the barley-grasses are now in the genus *Critesion*.

New Holland Daisies are small native blue-flowered daisies. Two are moderately common. The Woolly New-Holland Daisy is now *Vittadinia gracilis*. Its old name is, to make confusion certain, now taken by the Common New Holland Daisy, which becomes *Vittadinia cuneata*.

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Most of the Casuarinas are now Allocasuarinas, and the Drooping She-oak has become Allocasuarina verticillata.

The Bundled Guinea-flower, from the Ridge Road, has as its new name Hibbertia prostrata. The Erect Guinea-flower has changed from Hibbertia stricta to H. riparia. Hibbertia australis has in turn become H. stricta.

The Tall Sundew has lost its rank, and is now just a subspecies of the Pale Sundew. The Climbing Sundew is now Drosera macrantha.

The Flat Spurge, is an Eurporbia again, as E. drummondii.

Some of the common peas have also changed. The Blunt-leaf Bitter Pea is Daviesia leptophylla, to make the third or fourth change since Willis was published. The small blue-flowered Hovea is Hovea linearis, and the Cape Brooms have reverted to the genus Genista.

The River Bottlebrush has taken the name of the Alpine Bottlebrush, Callistemon sieberi (which in turn has been renamed). The Silver-leaf Stringybark goes back to its old name, Eucalyptus cephalocarpa. Burgan, a tea-tree of the river banks, is no longer a tea-tree but becomes a Kunzea, taking its old name of Kunzea ericoides.

The small shrublet, the White Marianth, has had its second recent name change, and is now Billardiera procumbens.

Sheep Sorrel is another plant to return to its old name, Rumex acetosella. Many of the knot-weeds change from the genus Polygonum to Persicaria.

The Narrow-leaf Hop-bush, found at Glenluce and also on Mt Moorul, becomes Dodonaea viscosa ssp angustifolia.

TARNAGULLA EXCURSION

Three clubs (Maryborough, St Arnaud and Castlemaine) combined for a most enjoyable excursion to Tarnagulla. Of particular interest was a mine with six different species of fern in the shaft. 120 plants were identified during the excursion, and the plant list for the excursion can be obtained from E. Perkins.

Mar 11-13 OCEAN GROVE CAMPOUT at Uniting Church camp.
\$16 per day, including 3 meals. Marine biology cruise, beach walk, rock shelves, mangrove swamps, Edwards point, snorkelling, Ocean Grove nature reserve etc. A joint WVFNCA and VFNCA campout. Mark it in your diary.

STREET. TREE DIRECTORY Part 2

DOVETON ST (N side) 1/4/88

- Kennedy St
- London Plane
- Claret Ash
- London Plane (x2)
- 3 Locust Tree
- London Plane
- 5 Locust Tree
- London Plane
- 5-11 Locust Tree (x3)
- 13 Purple-leaf Cherry-plum
- London Plane
- Box-elder Maple
- 15 English Elm
- Mudgee Wattle
- Locust Tree
- Cootamundra Wattle
- English Elm
- Barker St
- 19 English Ash
- 21 English Elm
- 23 English Ash
- London Plane
- 25 Claret Ash
- 27 Crimson Mallee Box
- Kurrajong
- Claret Ash
- 29 English Elm
- 31 English Ash
- Desert Ash
- 31A Bracelet Honey-myrtle
- Desert Ash
- Hargraves St
- Claret Ash
- Desert Ash
- 37 English Ash
- London Plane
- 39 English Ash
- London Plane
- 41 Claret Ash
- 43 London Plane
- Desert Ash
- 45 London Plane
- Golden Ash
- 47 Claret Ash
- Prunus elvins (x2)
- Elaeagnus
- Golden Ash
- Box-elder Maple
- English Ash
- Golden Ash
- Kurrajong (x2)
- Silky Oak
- Urquhart St
- English Ash
- 57 Flowering Ash
- English Ash
- 59 Flowering Ash
- English Ash
- 61 Flowering Ash
- English Ash

DOVETON ST (N side) cont

- 63 Flowering Ash
- Prunus elvins
- Grevillea sp
- Prunus sp
- Prunus elvins (x2)
- Pyracantha
- Prunus elvins
- English Broom
- Prunus elvins (x3)
- 73 Cootamundra Wattle
- Prunus elvins
- Dianella revoluta
- Fletcher St

KENNEDY ST (West side) 30/3/88

- Forest St
- Yellow Gum
- Sydney Blue Gum
- Yellow Gum (x3)
- Mostyn St
- Yellow Gum
- Sydney Blue Gum (x2)
- Yellow Gum (x3)
- Lyttleton St
- Yellow Gum (x6)
- Templeton St
- Golden Poplar
- English Ash (x3)
- Golden Poplar (x2)
- Campbell st
- Golden Poplar (x2)
- Doveton St
- Poplar
- Claret Ash
- Berkely St
- English Ash (x2)
- Claret Ash
- Golden Poplar
- Claret Ash (x2)
- Golden Poplar
- Claret Ash
- Bull st
- American Ash
- Golden Ash
- American Ash
- Golden Ash
- Manna Ash
- Claret Ash
- Golden Ash
- Hunter st
- Manna Ash
- Golden Ash
- Manna Ash
- Golden Ash
- Manna Ash
- English Oak
- Apple
- Parker st

10 NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER

BIRD NOTES

Red Browed firetails have been feeding in the high school vegetable garden, in a manner not unlike that of sparrows. (G. Broadway)

Swallow-like bird has been seen feeding near Vaughan. It was thought that it was probably a Fairy Martin. (B. Thompson)

Olive-backed Oriole has been calling frequently, and a Pallid Cuckoo has been calling constantly in Gaulton St. (M. Oliver)

A pair of Striated Pardalotes has been seen in Campbell St, and fluffy babies with Mountain Duck parents at Bells Swamp (B. Maund).

PLANT LIST NEW LOCALITY RECORDS

Small-fl onion grass Q123; Common Vetch Q; Salsify 1
Broad-leaf peppermint Q; Pink Fingers Q; Golden Moths Q
Drooping She-oak Q; Golden moths C; Bulbine lily W
Ploughshare wattle W; Leopard Orchid Q; Common Correa QW
Variable stinkweed Q; Swan Greenhood Q; Tiny Greenhood Q
Blue periwinkle G; Scented sundew Q; Spanish heath 2
Red spider-orchid W; Soft millotia Q; Scarlet sundew Q1
Grey parrot pea W; Slender buttercup 1; Moss sunray Q
Common bow-flower Q; Rough bedstraw Q; Ferny cotula 1
Common beard-heath Q; Blue caladenia Q; Tiny cudweed 1
Purplish beard o'd Q; Running postman 1; C'on rice flr 1
Hairy centrolepis Q; S'n club-rush Q; Hairy stylewort 1
Swainsona oroboides 1; Thatch saw-sedge Q; Cleavers 1
Climbing sundew Q; Sm'th cat's ear 1; Leafy templetonia Q
Common everlasting 1; Coarse lagenifera 1

BUSH THICK-KNEES at Sandon. A pair were seen at Sandon on 13/9/88 by E. Perkins. Formerly they were known as Bush Curlews. It would be hard to mistake the bird for any other. Bush Thick-knees are quite large, and have a white stripe above and below the eye, and a white wing patch. The breast is streaked and rump is almost white. They were able to be viewed at leisure, from about 40 metres. Although this is a new bird list record, they were formerly to be found behind the Newstead School, and the Thick Knees have been seen by local residents.

BIRD LIST LOCALITY RECORDS. White browed scrub-wrens have been seen at Wattle Flat by R. Mills. White-browed babblers, were seen at Sandon by L. Perkins and Painted button-quail also at Sandon by E. Perkins.

WILDFLOWERS. The Wax-flowers are blooming profusely this year - the best show for many years. Orchids in flower include Nodding, Tall, Blunt, Swan and Tiny Greenhoods, Mosquito Orchids, Leopard Orchids, Blue, Pink and Fairy Caladenias, Golden Moths and Red Spider Orchids.

WARBY RANGES EXCURSION

The Club has an excursion to Warby Ranges and Reef Hill during October, as part of the Western Victoria Field Naturalists Clubs Association Campout.

Warby Range (or the Warbys) is between Benalla and Wangaratta. It is a granite range stretching 27 km north of Glenrowan. It has excellent vantage points with views to the mountains of the Victorian Alps. It is also noted for its wildflowers, and is the only locality in Victoria where the Spur-leaf Wattle (*Acacia triptera*) can be found. This wattle is unusual in that the leaves grow as wings down the stem. Blakeleys Red Gum is quite common on much of the range. Other plants include Grey guinea-flowers, unusually tall Grass Trees and Flat-leaf Bush-pea (*Pultenaea platyphylla*).

Reef Hills Park is 4 km south-west of Benalla at the edge of the Hume Highway. Reef Hills is a former gold-field, and generally the bushland is rather similar to that of Castlemaine. The author of this article is possibly the first person to suggest that it become a State or National Park. It is worthy of such status, with 137 species of plants including 18 orchid species. Included are Bent-leaf Wattle (*Acacia flexifolia*), Mystery Wattle (*A. difformis*), Red-stem Wattle (*A. rubida*), and Finger Flower. It includes mixed box/stringybark forest, Grey Box forest and Red Gum forest. Over 100 species of birds and 17 native mammals have been recorded for the park.

ORCHIDS OF CASTLEMAINE

The booklet "Orchids of the Castlemaine District" by Rita Mills has now been published by the Club, with the assistance of a grant from the Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands towards printing costs. Price is \$1, which must be one of the best bargains ever. As well as notes and descriptions, the book has line drawings of all of the common orchids.

SUPPER ROSTER

Oct G. Sitch, E. Kelly Dec M & M. Willis

CASTLEMAINE F.N.C. Inc. P.O. Box 324, Castlemaine 3450.

Committees: George Broadway (Pres), Barbara Maund (Sec), Maggie Oliver (VP), Rita Mills (Newsletter), Kaye Turner (Program Sec), Ern Perkins (Treas), Margaret Dunne, Geoff Sitch, Robyn Holden, Gunter Liebl, Elma Kelly.
Librarians: Lesley Perkins.

CASTLEMAINE F.N.C. AGENDA

Wed 5 Oct. NORWOOD HILL. Meet end of McKendry st at 4.15 p.m. (Turn east off Wheeler st into Coulthard st. and then south at the next corner along McKendry St)

Wed 12 Oct. ODGERS ROAD. Excursion to R. Murrell property. Meet Rose Gardens car park (Downes Rd) at 4.15 pm.

Fri 14 Oct. KAKADU with John Zwar. Monthly meeting at 8.00 pm at the High School.

Sat 15 Oct. SANDON FOREST excursion. Meet SEC, Mostyn St at 1.30 sharp.

Wed 19 Oct. DINAH GULLY excursion. Meet new tourist information centre, Melbourne Rd at 4.15 pm sharp.

Fri 21 Oct. WARBY RANGES. W.V.F.N.C.A. campout 8.00 p.m. Fri: Orchids with Roger Briggs at Wangaratta High school, Edwards St., Wangaratta.
9.00 a.m. Sat: Excursion to Warby Ranges. Meet at 'The Centre', Chisolm St, Wangaratta.
6.30 p.m. Sat: Annual meeting of W.V.F.N.C.A. at 'The Centre', Chisolm St, Wangaratta. Followed by book-launching - Plants of NE Vic.
8.15 p.m. Sat: The Warby Ranges - talk by Arthur Hall
9.00 a.m. Sun: Excursion to Reef Hills, Benalla. Meet at 'The Centre', Chisolm St, Wangaratta.

Wed 26 Oct. TARADALE excursion. Meet Information Centre, Melbourne Rd at 4.15 pm sharp.

Sat 29 Oct. MUCKLEFORD FOREST and SMITH REEF Festival excursion. Meet Indoor Cricket pavilion at 1.30 pm.

Wed 2 Nov. KAWEKA TOUR by Kaweka Committee. 6.30 pm.

Sat 5 Nov. MUCKLEFORD FOREST and SMITH REEF Festival excursion. Meet indoor cricket pavilion at 1.30 pm

Wed 9 Nov. BRADFORD. Meet 27 Doveton St at 4.15. If warm weather take your tea.

Fri Nov 11. PAT BINGHAM - A CONTRAST IN ISLANDS

Sat Nov 12. BELLS SWAMP EXCURSION. Meet SEC at 1.30

Sun 13 Nov. SPRING GULLY and GLENLUCE. Excursion with Bendigo F.N.C. Meet Market car park at 10.00. Lunch at Spring Gully.

Fri 9 Dec. MEMBERS AND VISITORS NIGHT